

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion.

Claims 1-17 and 20-23 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 14 and 20 are amended by the present amendment.

Amendments to the claims find support in the application as originally filed, at least at Applicant's Figure 12. Thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-17 and 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; Claims 1-17 and 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,137,468 to Martinez in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,396,506 to Hoshino, U.S. Patent No. 6,326,978 to Robbins et al. (herein "Robbins"), and U.S. Patent No. 5,781,165 to Tabata.

First, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1-17 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Independent Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 14 and 20 are directed to information processing apparatuses, information processing methods, and mediums for storing a program that include, in part, controlling a direction of a display of a selected image when an angular component of the change of posture of the display screen remains unchanged for a predetermined time after the detection of the angular component of the change of posture of the display screen. In other words, the claimed inventions may detect a change in posture of the display screen, and then may wait a predetermined amount of time, during which the angular component of the change of posture of the display screen remains unchanged, before controlling the direction of display of selected images by rotating the selected images.

For example, as shown in Applicant's Figure 12, a sequence of steps repeats in a loop (i.e., SP11, SP12, SP13) as long as an angle of rotation changes (i.e., while not the same angle of rotation in step SP13), as described in the specification at page 34, lines 3-19. Then, after the rotation is detected and when the angle of rotation stops changing (i.e., Yes - same angle of rotation in SP13), the process may wait a predetermined amount of time during which the posture of the angle of rotation remains unchanged (e.g., change of posture of the display screen remains unchanged) before actually rotating the selected image. For example, the process may loop through steps SP14, SP12, SP13 for the predetermined time (e.g., delay time elapsed in SP14), while requiring that there is no change in the angle of rotation (e.g., YES - same angle of rotation in SP13), before actually rotating the selected image in step SP15, as shown in Applicant's Figure 12 and as described in the specification at page 35, line 5, to page 37, line 10.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's written description conveys possession of the claimed invention with reasonable clarity to those skilled in the art. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Further, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1-17 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Martinez in view of Hoshino, Robbins, and Tabata.

Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus that includes, in part, a display screen, posture detecting means for detecting an angular component of a change of posture of the display screen, and displaying direction control means for displaying a plurality of separate images on the display screen and for controlling a direction of display of the selected image by rotating a selected image according to the angular component of the

change of posture of the display screen detected by the posture detecting means. The displaying direction control means controls the direction of display of the selected image by rotating the selected image when the angular component of the change of posture of the display screen detected by the posture detecting means remains unchanged for a predetermined time after the posture detecting means detects the angular component of the change of posture of the display screen. Independent Claims 3, 7, 9, 13, 14 and 20 include similar features.

In a non-limiting example, Applicant's Figures 11 and 12 show an example of an information processing apparatus that includes a CPU 30. In step SP11, the CPU 30 detects an angle of rotation of the display section 3 (e.g., an angular component of a change of posture of the display screen) as a first rotation angle based on the captured angular velocity detecting data from an input interface 60. In step SP12, the CPU 30 captures a second angle of rotation from the input interface 60, and in step SP13 the CPU 30 determines if the first angle of rotation and the second angle of rotation are the same.

If the angles of rotation are not the same, the CPU 30 returns to step SP11 to again detect first and second angles of rotation. If the first and second angles of rotation are the same, the CPU 30 repeatedly captures a Previously Presented second angle (SP12) and re-verifies that the first and second angles are equal (SP13) (e.g., angular component of the change of posture of the display screen remains unchanged) until a delay time is elapsed (SP14)(e.g., a predetermined time).

In other words, after detecting a change in screen posture, the display direction control means is configured to wait until first and second angles of rotation remain unchanged for a predetermined amount of time before rotating the selected image. Thus, the

present invention advantageously changes the orientation of the selected image based on a detected rotation of the display, when the angle of rotation of the display remains the same for a predetermined time after that detected rotation.

For example, when operating the information processing apparatus on a train in which the display unit is joggled or moved inadvertently, the information processing apparatus can advantageously avoid mistakenly changing the orientation of the selected image, because the screen does not remain in the inadvertent position for long enough to exceed the predetermined time. On the other hand, when operating the information processing apparatus on the train, rotating the display unit to a new angle, and retaining the display unit in the new orientation for a predetermined time, the selected image may be correctly and advantageously rotated.

Applicant respectfully notes that none of the references cited in the outstanding Office Action teach or suggest the feature of controlling the direction of display when the angular component of the change of posture of the display remains unchanged for a predetermined time after detection of a rotation.

Martinez describes a method and apparatus for altering a display in response to changes in attitude relative to a plane. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Martinez does not teach or suggest rotating selected images when an angular component remains unchanged for a period of time after the detection of an orientation change. Instead, Martinez describes using time delays in only three situations, each of which is different than the claimed use of a predetermined time.

First, Martinez indicates that “if the rotate feature is on, the process then waits until a selected amount of predefined movement is detected (step 802).”¹ Thus, in this case Martinez merely indicates that a process waits until a selected amount of predefined movement is detected, but does not indicate changing or rotating a selected image when an angle of rotation remains unchanged for a predetermined time after detecting the rotation.

Further, in Figure 9, Martinez describes a method of rearranging windows when the display is shaken back and forth. Martinez indicates that the method first waits until a movement is detected (step 902). Then, if it is determined that the movement is a degree of tilt greater than or equal to a default (step 912), Martinez indicates that the process is to wait for i) a defined amount of time or ii) until a movement is detected (e.g., a predetermined time).

However, Martinez indicates that in situation i) if there is no movement (e.g., angle remains unchanged) in the defined amount of time, the process merely restarts from the beginning (arrow to A) after step 916, which is different than the claimed approach in which a detection of no movement for a predetermined period of time after detection of a movement is the situation that may result in the display orientation being changed.

In addition, regarding situation ii) Martinez indicates that only if a second direction of movement is different (i.e., for shake detection) does Martinez indicate that the windows are arranged in step 918 (e.g., rotating said selected image). In other words, in this example Martinez indicates that only in situation ii) if an angle of the display is **changed** (e.g., shake movement is detected) before the elapsed time out occurs, (e.g., predetermined time) does Martinez arrange windows (e.g., rotating said selected image), which is the opposite behavior

¹ Martinez at column 5, lines 48-50.

to that of the claimed approach, which rotates the selected image when the angle of display remains ***unchanged*** for a predetermined time after the change is detected.

Similarly, in Figure 10, Martinez indicates that a first tilt degree and direction are saved in step 1006, and a process waits for a defined amount of time in step 1009 (e.g., a predetermined time). After waiting for the defined amount of time, if a significant movement occurs, Martinez saves the Previously Presented angle and may subsequently arrange the windows in step 1022. However, if no significant movement occurs in the predetermined time, Martinez indicates the process restarts from the beginning, as indicated by the arrow to A. In other words, Martinez indicates that a process waits a defined amount of time and proceeds with arranging a window (e.g., rotating an image) ***only if a significant movement occurs***, which is opposite of the behavior of the claimed method in which rotation of a selected image occurs when “the change of posture of the display screen detected by the posture detecting means remain unchanged for a predetermined time after the posture detecting means detects the angular component of the change of posture of the display screen,” as recited in the independent claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining references cited in the outstanding Office Action also do not teach or suggest the claimed features lacking in the disclosure of Martinez.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 14 and 20, and claims depending therefrom, are allowable.

Application Serial No.: 09/557,035
Reply to Office Action dated June 9, 2006

Consequently, in view of the present amendments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

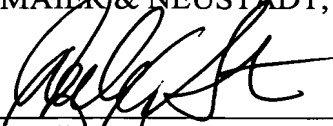
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